

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An information processor that receives information that is distributed from an external information source and that stores and uses said distributed information comprises a unique information storage means, an encryption means, and a decoding means. The unique information storage means stores unique information that is not duplicated in devices other than a predesignated information processor. The encryption means encrypts the received distributed information using the unique information as an encryption key. The decoding means decodes data that have been encrypted by the encryption means with unique information that corresponds to the encryption key as the decoding key. The unique information storage means can be constituted as a read-only storage medium that permits only reading of the unique information that has been stored. The encryption key and the decoding key may be identical. The information processor is further provided with a storage device for storing data that have been encrypted. The storage medium that is installed in the storage device may be a storage medium such as a hard disk that cannot be removed, or may be an interchangeable or removable storage medium such as magnetic tape or an optical disk.